

I think the University of Maryland, in the program we have here and in other parts of the world, has done a great deal to bring our country and its citizens closer to the peoples of other lands. And I hope that our work abroad has served to stimulate a respect and warm feeling of others toward us. If we had accomplished this and nothing more, we would have been well rewarded for our efforts.

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ADDRESS, UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND  
COMMENCEMENT EXERCISES  
COLLEGE PARK

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I often think that the students in our colleges and universities today must be both flattered and bewildered by the attention they receive from those of us on the outside. At every turn, they are told that the fate of the world rests precariously on their shoulders. This is a departure from the older concepts of the student's role in society, and could be annoying to everyone concerned were it not for the heavy element of truth it contains.

Not many years ago, it was customary on commencement day to shower the graduates with platitudes on success and progress, give them a healthy pat on the back and wish them a speedy success in business so that they might return within a very few years with a pocket full of money to support the football team. But these good days are gone, and gone beyond recall, I suspect. It is the fashion nowadays for the commencement speaker to recite all the woes of the world and to advise the young men and women before him that it is their awful responsibility to abate them. "We haven't done at all well," we say, "and therefore if we are to keep the good life we have inherited, you must help us out." Ah yes, it is true, we do wish them all the success—monetary and otherwise—they seek, while at the time the thought races in counterpoint through our mind: "It's not going to be so easy as you think friends."

I do not believe—and I think you do not either—that speakers, writers and others who prod you and belabor you with problems do so because they dislike you and want to make the moment unpleasant for you. As adept as some of us are in the art, we would prefer not to bore you.

The plain fact is that we are in trouble. We do desperately need assistance and those of you who are recipients of the best education we